

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 85-102

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

GENSTAR GAS RECOVERY SYSTEMS INC.
AND THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
MOUNTAIN VIEW METHANE GAS RECOVERY PROJECT
MOUNTAIN VIEW, SANTA CLARA COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, (hereinafter called the Board) finds that:

1. Genstar Gas Recovery Systems Inc., by application dated May 13, 1985, has applied for a permit to actively discharge landfill gas condensate into Area 6A of the City of Mountain View solid waste disposal site. Genstar Gas Recovery Systems, Inc. and the City of Mountain View are hereinafter collectively referred to as the discharger. An unknown quantity of condensate will be discharged passively (see Finding 4) into other areas mined for methane within the City of Mountain View solid waste disposal site. The facility for which a permit has been applied for is known as the Mountain View methane gas recovery project.
2. The methane gas recovery project site, as shown on Attachment A, which is incorporated herein and made a part of this Order, is on a portion of property used by the City of Mountain View as a solid waste disposal site. This property is located at the easterly end of Stierlin Road between Charleston Slough and Stevens Creek in Santa Clara County.
3. The landfill gas condensate to be discharged is a byproduct of the landfill gas extraction process. It contains no chemical additive which could adversely affect containment features at the landfill, and consists only of water and liquid contaminants removed from gas recovered at the City of Mountain View solid waste disposal site.
4. Condensate is to be returned to the landfill in two manners: 1) actively, by pumping to condensate reinjection wells from the central gas-to-electricity generating station, and, 2) passively, thru condensate traps placed at low points in the gas collection lines. These condensate return points are shown on plans submitted May 13, 1985 with the Report of Waste Discharge.

5. The City of Mountain View solid waste disposal site is located in a former low-lying flood plain which has been raised from the flood zone using municipal refuse as fill. The site is underlain by a series of poorly cemented conglomerates, sandstones, siltstones, and claystones. Three water-bearing zones, perched, shallow, and deep, underlie the site. The perched groundwater, which exists at depths of four to 20 feet, is of poor quality. Refuse placed below this water table has been isolated from groundwater by clay barriers and natural features as described in Board Order No. 78-11. The quality of shallow water pockets which exist at a depth of from 20 to 80 feet below the ground surface varies greatly with location. The deep, useable, groundwater is protected by a massive clay layer extending from 60 to 100 feet below the ground surface. No natural hydraulic continuity exists between the shallow and deep water tables.
6. The City of Mountain View solid waste disposal site has been in operation under Board Order No. 78-11 since 1978. No evidence has been reported to this Board under the Self-Monitoring Program for this facility which would indicate that the facility has not adequately contained wastes disposed of there. Self-Monitoring reports have been submitted regularly.
7. The potential and actual beneficial uses of ground and surface waters in the vicinity of this solid waste disposal site which might be affected by disposal of methane gas condensate are:
 - a. Water contact recreation
 - b. Non-contact water recreation
 - c. Warm Freshwater habitat
 - d. Wildlife habitat
 - e. Fish migration
 - f. Fish spawning
 - g. Municipal and domestic water supply
 - h. Agricultural water supply
 - i. Industrial process water supply.
8. The Board adopted a revised Water Quality Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin on July 1, 1982 and this Order implements the water quality objectives stated in that plan.

9. These waste discharge requirements regulate an exemption made on the basis of Finding 3 for the discharge of a liquid waste into a class III landfill , as described in Section 2511 (e) of Subchapter 15, Chapter 3, Title 23, of the California Administrative Code. The Waste Discharge Requirements for the city of Mountain View solid waste disposal site (Board Order No. 78-11) are herein amended to incorporate this exemption.
10. The Board notified the discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements, and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and to submit their written views and recommendations.
11. The Board, in a public hearing held on May 15, 1985 heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED: Genstar Gas Recovery Systems, Inc., and the City of Mountain View, and any other persons or organizations that currently or in the future own this facility shall meet the provisions contained in division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder and shall also comply with the following.

A. PROHIBITIONS

1. The disposal of condensate shall not create a pollution or nuisance as defined in Section 13050 (l) and (m) of the California Water Code.
2. Condensate shall not be disposed of in any way which would allow discharge of the condensate into waters of the State or the United States.
3. Disposal of condensate shall not create any condition which does or could impair the effectiveness of the containment structures or features at the City of Mountain View waste disposal site.

B. SPECIFICATIONS

1. Condensate shall be returned to the City of Mountain View solid waste disposal site at the points designated on the plans submitted with the Report of Waste Discharge.


2. Condensate reinjection wells and condensate traps shall conform with their respective details as specified in the Report of Waste Discharge.

C. PROVISIONS

1. The discharger shall comply with this Order immediately upon commencement of operations.
2. The discharger shall remove and relocate any condensate which is discharged at this site in violation of these requirements.
3. The discharger shall file with this Board a report of any material change or proposed change in the character, location, or quantity of this waste discharge. For the purpose of these requirements, this includes any proposed change in the gas extraction system configuration, or the ownership of the Mountain View methane gas recovery project, or the city of Mountain View solid waste disposal site.
4. The discharger shall maintain a copy of this Order at the Mountain View methane gas recovery project so as to be available at all times to site operating personnel.
5. This Board considers the discharger to have a continuing responsibility for correcting any problems which arise in the future as a result of this waste discharge or related operations.
6. The discharger shall permit the Regional Board:
 - a) Entry upon premises on which wastes are located or in which any required records are kept.
 - b) Access to copy any records required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this Order.
 - c) Inspection of equipment or records.
 - d) Sampling of any discharge.

7. These requirements do not authorize commission of any act causing injury to the property of another or of the public; do not convey any property rights; do not remove liability under federal, state, or local laws; and do not authorize the discharge of wastes without appropriate permits from other agencies or organizations.
8. Board Order No. 78-11, Waste Disposal Specification A.4., is hereby amended to read "Group I wastes, as defined in Title 23, California Administrative Code, and liquid wastes, other than those described in Board Order No. 85-102, shall not be discharged or stored at this site at any time."

I, Roger B. James, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on September 18, 1985.


ROGER B. JAMES
Executive Officer

Attachments:

- A. Mountain View methane gas recovery project map

SAN FRANCISCO BAY



CHARLESTON SLOUGH

MT. VIEW SLOUGH

STEVENS CREEK

HIGHWAY 101

STIERLIN ROAD

--- APPROXIMATE BOUNDARY OF METHANE GAS
RECOVERY PROJECT

— APPROXIMATE BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF
MT. VIEW SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL
SITE



GENERATION STATION
(GAS TO ELECTRIC)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ATTACHMENT A
MT. VIEW METHANE GAS
RECOVERY PROJECT

(WITHIN THE CITY OF MT. VIEW
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SITE)

DRAWN BY: J.C.

DATE: 8/16/85

DRWG. NO.